

PROCLAMATION **TINNITUS AWARENESS WEEK**MAY 21-28, 2005

WHEREAS, more than 50 million Americans are afflicted with tinnitus, a medical condition that causes a person to hear noises like hissing, ringing or whooshing when no external source is present, and approximately 12 million suffer such debilitating symptoms that they are forced to seek medical help; and

WHEREAS, tinnitus presently has no cure, and the American Tinnitus Association is working to raise public awareness of the condition, educate people about prevention and advance the quest for a cure; and

WHEREAS, in many cases, simple hearing protection and awareness of risk can help protect people from hearing loss or further damage to their hearing; and

WHEREAS, adults and children can help protect their hearing by turning down the volume, using earplugs or earmuffs in noisy environments and walking away from loud noises; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 21-28, 2005, **TINNITUS AWARENESS WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State